



# AQUAVIC

ABN 23 093 121 076

An Owner's Guide to Fresh Water Pool Chemistry  
with APVMA approved "AlgaeNON+" (copper / silver alloy) electrodes.

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## Preamble:

In drafting this advice, we have assumed that your pool, fountain or water feature is structurally sound, free of substantial water leaks, has good circulation, and the filter, if fitted, is in good order. Contrary to popular belief, the maintenance of your water chemistry is simple and straightforward and only requires about 10 minutes of your time each week in the peak season and monthly in the off-season.

## Consumables:

The chemicals we require are *Sodium bi-carbonate* (common baking soda) *hydrochloric Acid or Dry Acid* (Sodium bisulphate) and an approved sanitiser/oxidiser. In some soft water areas, it may also be necessary to use a tad of *calcium chloride*. And we strongly recommend that you acquire a good quality 4 in 1 test kit.

## Total Alkalinity 90 – 130 ppm.

Follow the test kit manufacturer's directions to establish the **TA** of the water. If the level is too low, add *Sodium bi-carbonate*\* (always dissolve in a bucket or watering can of water prior) until the correct level is achieved. Allow plenty of time for the additive to mix before re-testing. It may take a day or two to reach the correct level. Higher is always better at this stage.

## pH 6.8 – 7.4:

***Caution: Never attempt to read pH until the TA is established !***

The readings will almost certainly be wildly inaccurate and could result in the addition of chemicals far in excess of requirements. Determine the **pH** of the sample and if the reading is too low, see **TA** above and add *Sodium bi-carbonate*. If it is too high add *Hydrochloric or Dry Acid*\*. (always add the acid to a bucket or watering can of pool water). Once again, allow plenty of time for the acid to combine with the water and the closer to 7.0 the better. (See also Oxidiser below).

## Copper (Cu) 0.1 to 0.9 ppm:

The Copper level was probably established during commissioning and may change slowly. Should the copper level begin to drop, increase the Ioniser/Pump running time. If the copper level begins to increase, reduce the Ioniser/Pump running time. Test weekly until correct running time is achieved, then monthly thereafter. Optimum level is **0.3 to 0.6 ppm**.

## Oxidiser / Sanitiser:

Some pool owners find that an ioniser works quite well unsupported by any other chemicals whatsoever, and some choose to use supplementary doses of chlorine, but, generally speaking, you will need to add an approved oxidiser/sanitiser. The oxidiser is required to "burn out" organic matter such as sunscreen, cosmetics, faeces etc., and the sanitiser to enhance the bug-killing potential of the silver. Contact our office for details of ioniser-friendly products.

## Total Dissolved Solids: 250 – 1500 ppm:

**TDS** is the arithmetic sum of *everything* that is dissolved in the water– just a sugar is dissolved in tea, salt and other minerals are dissolved in sea water etc. It will only ever increase with time – never decrease. If you believe that your pool water has a high TDS and is highly conductive (> 2000 ppm) contact our office for advice. See also "**Ionising**" in your installation and running instructions. \* For quantities, refer to Pool Chemistry Tables. Copies available on request.

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